

Kate Conant

Dear Washington State Department of Ecology-

Please uphold the standards of the Clean Water Act and Washington State's water quality standards by making the approval of NEDPS permits to the Federal EPA conditional on meeting State and Federal Clean water standards. The administration of water flows in the Snake and Columbia rivers must be managed by the Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation in a manner such as to prioritize water temperature, and salmon health, as a priority outcome.

The law is clear that state water quality standards apply to Federal dams. The Corps and Bureau of Reclamation need to execute a plan create 68 degree river flows. We need to understand real-time if, by making cooler waters a priority, this goal is possible given current river infrastructure. If cooler waters cannot be attained, and removing dams is a necessary part of the solution, we need to move rapidly in implementing dam removal.

Thank you for consideration of these comments. Kate Conant